BNSSG ICB Dental Strategy Workshop Breakout Session Outputs - Overall Summary

Improving Access & Addressing Variation

Need to undertake a geographically focused review of capacity, contracts and associated local provision to identify aspirations for targeted access particularly for urgent care & hard to reach communities (mix of UDA and sessional rates)

Explore opportunities to release funding in some areas to focus elsewhere

Review and standardise referral pathways and access points

Explore opportunities to utilise Digital technology

Increase public and professional awareness of how dentistry works

Consider health champions in the community which may be building on existing schemes for related areas

Review reasons patients do not attend and look at reducing rates

Workforce

Increase understanding of dental pathways and roles

Review career progression pathways and upskilling of staff in particular therapists and consider increasing advanced care practitioners

Promote career opportunities in schools including apprenticeships

Coordinated approaches to recruitment across the area and focused on applicant work/life balance needs

Create opportunities for workforce networking, wider community partnerships and enable staff to feel part of the NHS

Review possibility of salaried positions and access to NHS Pension

Broaden specialty focus including related areas such as Diabetes

Focus on retention particularly nurses & therapists

Population Level Oral Health Interventions

Complete demand and capacity modelling

Increase oral health education in care homes, nursing homes and schools

Consider community engagement plans, other Local Authority areas (i.e. healthy weight) and early years services to find opportunities to include Oral Health

Complete a skills audit to understand scale of opportunity for the population including outreach services and education

Further consider national evidence such as the Advanced Dental Care Review and NICE guidance recommendations on tooth brushing schemes

Increase HPV vaccine uptake to reduce Oral cancer rates

Consider Tier 2 services to reduce waiting lists

Consider care access routes such as urgent care, 111, stabilisation and opportunities to focus on population needs

Integration & Collaboration

Explore opportunities to embed Oral Health in primary care including GP practices and pharmacies (particularly if co-located) and increase awareness between services

Review opportunities for any possible underspend on Local Authority prevention budgets

Develop urgent care shared care records and referral processes

Identify opportunities for the various dental roles to be part of the Enhanced Health in Care Homes Framework

Review opportunities for utilising existing services such as Diabetic Retinal Screening

Explore opportunities for dental students going out to schools, care homes and focus on specific areas

Utilise existing voluntary sector links with hard to reach communities such as the homeless and asylum seekers

Review opportunity for increasing sedation rather than general anaesthetic

Shaping better health